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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,233	04/18/2001	Mitsuru Yamamoto	Q64100	6441

7590

10/23/2002

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EXAMINER

HESS, BRUCE H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1774

DATE MAILED: 10/23/2002

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No. 09/836,233 Applicant(s) Yamamoto et al.
 Examiner Bruce Hess Group Art Unit 1774

— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet beneath the correspondence address —

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE One MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____
- ☐ This action is FINAL.
- ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 1-20
- ☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are pending in the application.
 - Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 - ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 - ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
 - ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 - ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 are subject to restriction or election requirement

Application Papers

- ☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.
- ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner
- ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)

- ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d).
- ☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the:
 - ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a))

*Certified copies not received: _____

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). _____
- ☐ Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948
- ☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152
- ☐ Other _____

Office Action Summary

Art Unit: 1774

1. Upon reconsideration, the telephone restriction requirement instituted by Examiner Sheuareged on 9-19-02 has been cancelled and replaced by the following election of species.
2. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention: Heat transfer sheet and system employing the same having a light-heat conversion layer which employs at least one of the following compounds.

- A. Compounds having a functional group selected from
 1. A phosphate group;
 2. A phosphite group;
 3. An acid halide group;
 4. A sulfonic halide group;
 5. An acid anhydride group; pr
 6. An isocyanate group;
- B. Compounds having an acidic group;
- C. compounds represented by general formula (10) and tautomers thereof; or
- D. Compounds represented by general formula (13)

Applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, no claims are generic.

Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and a listing of all claims readable

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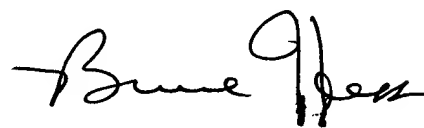
thereon, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

3. In conclusion, applicants should elect one of species A₁, A₂, A₃, A₄, A₅, A₆, B, C or D.



BRUCE H. HESS
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner Hess/ng

October 17, 2002